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## Norway.

An innovation in revolutions such as the Norwegian Storthing has devised deserves close attention. Norway's oppression by Sweden seems to outsiders a matter of academic rhetoric rather than of actual fact, and it will be hard, despite the volcanic oratory of BJÖRNSTJERNE BJÖRNSON and his imitators, to discover wrongs deep enough for Scandinavian sons of vikings to steep their hands in their br thers' blood.

A revolution by parliamentary resolution alone is something new, however. If successful it will show that the twentieth century has advanced beyond the rude Middle Ages. Sweden doesn't seem to care much what Norway resolves, but probably King OSKAR will decline to take the part the Storthing has assigned to him. It is unlikely that any Norseman blood will be shed in any case.

This outbreak of provincial patriotism is strangely foreign to the modern tendencies of union of race and language. and seems particularly untimely when a united Scandinavia might be able to win back the provinces wrested by Russia, should the Czar's empire collapse.

### The Most Costly Piece of Land in the World.

In 1799 a list was made of the owners of houses and lots in the city of New York valued at £2,000 and more. They numbered something over three hundred. The highest valuation recorded was about £5,000. At that time State street and the lower end of Broadway were the sites of rich private residences of the day. The most costly of those in Broadway were the house of DANIEL LUDLOW, £4,500, and those of JOHN R. LIVINGSTON, WILLIAM EDGAR and JOHN JAY, £4,000 each. The total population of New York in 1800, only 60,515, was nearly twenty thousand more than the population of Philadelphia.

In 1780 the property at the southeast corner of Broadway and Wall street was sold for £1,000, a handsome price for those days; but in 1827 it brought more than three times as much, or \$18,725. At the death, in 1901, of BENJAMIN DOUGLAS SILLIMAN, a famous lawyer of New

York, the then owner, the value of the property was estimated at \$500,000. In 1904 it was assessed on the tax list at \$535,000. On Tuesday it was sold for foot. This is equivalent to about \$1,500,-000 for a full city lot of 25 by 100 feet. The attorney for the purchaser speaks of it as "the most valuable piece of real estate in the whole world." At any rate, it has ing area in the world.

The history of the rise of this property in salable value during a period of about a century illustrates the history of the growth of New York in population and financially. In the June Bulletin of the American Geographical Society is a paper which traces the development of "the great roads across the Appalachians," beginning in the last decades of the eighteenth century, to which the city of New York owed the impetus which more than doubled its population between 1800 and 1820, and in the ten years thereafter nearly doubled it again. WASHING-TON had looked for the focusing of the trade of the West on the Potomac River. and the now decayed Alexandria was to compete for the trade of the Great

Then came the advent of the Erie Canal, whose construction was advocated as a means of giving New York an advantage over New Orleans in the trade of the country northwest of the Ohio River. Better connections with the West had also given Philadelphia and Baltimore a great part of the Western trade. The Eric Canal. begun in 1817, was finished eight years afterward. It was a project advocated by Governor CLINTON, but was laughed at even during the course of its construction. JEFFERSON thought it might be made a successful project a hundred years later, but then it seemed to him preposterous. The farmers along its

route jeered at the engineers. Then came the era of railroads, the development of which we need not describe. Coincident with this development came the great foreign immigration, in consequence of which, largely, the population of the city of New York increased more rapidly than ever before-from 312,710 in 1840 to 515,547 in 1850 and 805,651 in 1860. It was during this period that dread of the coming of so many foreigners gave rise to the Know Nothing movement. The country was going to be ruined by so rapid an increase of the foreign born population, the native American element thought.

Up to 1840 this immigration had been relatively small, or less than seven hundred thousand since 1820. Between 1840 and 1850 it was about a million and a half, and in the next decade it rose to more than two millions and a half. The country is being swamped with foreigners, was the cry; our political institutions and our religion are in peril. But the foreigners kept coming in. Between 1880 and 1870 about two millions and a half arrived, and still more in the next ten years. Then all past records were far distanced. Nearly five and a quarter millians came over between 1880 and 1890,

and since then the number has been increased to nearly eight millions; and this year the immigration will be the greatest in our history.

The same old cry of fear of the foreign stream is raised, and Congress will be called on for drastic legislation to check it. The Chinese are already excluded, and now rises a demand for the exclusion of the Japanese. The Italians, whose immigration is now greatest in volume, are distrusted; yet as soon as they land their labor is sought for. The Jews are coming over too fast, in the opinion of many patriots. The races now arriving are said to be less desirable than those which came over in past periods of large immigration; but the outery is not so loud as was that against the Irish who landed here between 1840

and 1850. Meantime, New York is growing in every way with more rapid strides than ever before. The State census now being taken will probably enumerate a population of four millions and more, or a gain since 1900 of about six hundred thousand.

Where would New York be now except for the foreigners who have come to it during the last sixty years? Except for them, would land at the corner at six hundred dollars a square foot and be the most valuable piece of real estate could we have built the great railway there was use for the millions who came over in the past, is there not even more development will require the assistance | the Tribune of Feb. 27, 1902: of the millions yet to come?

## A Portrait From the Files of "The Tribune."

Governor Higgins's appointment of GEORGE W. ALDRIDGE to be a State Railroad Commissioner seems to be very gratifying to our neighbor the New York Tribune. Mr. ALDRIDGE has heretofore served as secretary to the commission. The Tribune, therefore, regards the appointment as a deserved and generally satisfactory "promotion of an officer who has efficiently and, we believe, without criticism been for several years the actual executive of that department." It has been watching with interest the evolution of Mr. ALDRIDGE as a civil service reformer and an independent citizen with ofty ideals as to municipal government. It has observed that the men he sends to Albany, as boss of the Monroe county organization, are among the best members of the Legislature. Such a political leader, in the Tribune's opinion, is worthy of encouragement. It praises Governor HIGGINS for encouraging ALDRIDGE to further public usefulness by appointing him to the Railroad Commission. There is only one fly in this pot of

precious and fragrant ointment. Some people persist in remembering the Canal Ring and the \$9,000,000 steal, and the scandals under the Black Administration and the relation of Mr. ALDRIDGE thereto, and the investigation instituted by Governor ROOSEVELT, and the harsh findings of his special counsel, Mr. Fox and Mr. MACFARLANE. The Tribune is conscious of the fact that the appointment which so delights it is likely to be criticized "because of Mr. ALDRIDGE's conduct \$700,000; yet it is a small piece of land, of the canal improvement while Comonly about 30 by 39 feet, and the price missioner of Public Works." It faintly paid for it is therefore about \$600 a square remembers that it has itself at times expressed dissatisfaction with his administration of that office." But all men are human and liable to err; and even so highminded a man and politician as the Hon. GEORGE W. ALDRIDGE of Rochester been bought at what is probably the high- may be led, through "excessive good est price ever paid for land of correspond- nature in the distribution of patronage." to make mistakes. This the Tribune frankly admits, but it brushes aside these insignificant errors of the past in a spirit so noble, so generous and so tolerant of human imperfection in Monroe county that we hasten to put its explanation of the canal scandal on record for the contentment of all charitable souls:

" It is not true that the \$9,000,000 was wasted, it the sense that the bulk of it was not honestly spent and the work not done which was paid for. That abortive enterprise was doomed to failure from th beginning through the disingenuousness of mercan tile bodies which foisted on the State a plan with estimates of cost which they knew to be deceptive and utterly inadequate. Not daring to tell the people what the enlargement would at best cost, they embarked the State on a scheme which was bound to exhaust the appropriations while the work was half finished and so useless. Such waste as Mr. ALDRIDGE may be justly blamed for was, we believe. not the result of any dishonesty, but of an excessive good nature in the distribution of patronage and a failure to realize the difficulties of his problem and the obligation to do more than enforce the contracts in a routine way, a mistake shared by the State

Engineer." It is quite true that the Tribune has criticized Mr. ALDRIDGE. It is not true that its criticism of him in the past has taken the same kindly view of his "mistakes" as makes so remarkable the foregoing excerpt. On Wednesday, Oct. 4, 1899, for example, a convention of Mr. ALDRIDGE'S Monroe county machine then recent Fox-Macfarlane report "completely vindicated Mr. ALDRIDGE from all those charges of wrongdoing and malfeasance which have been so freely circulated in the newspapers of the State. The resolution was a mild vindication indeed compared with that which the Tribune dealt out yesterday to the same statesman; yet on Saturday, Oct. 7, 1899. our neighboring authority on the ethics of canal "improvement" denounced the Monroe county Republicans in this fashion:

" This is one of the most mendaclous resolutions that a political convention was ever reckless enough insanity. Mr. ALDRIDGE must know that its representation of the findings of the lawyers is abso lutely untrue, and that anybody at will can prove it. Perhaps he has such control over both the Republican and Democratic organizations and the press of Monroe county that the voters can be kept in dark ness about matters of public record which everybody clse understands. If not, it would seem as if the misrepresentation in this resolution must be brought home to him with disgracing force to the effect that people who before thought he might have been unjustly criticized will be convinced that his acts must have been bad indeed since it is necessary to make such a monstrous distortion of the official repor

And the Tribune went on to say: "It ithe report) points out that the officials ap-

parently secured legislation so as to give themselves unusual power and make it impossible to hold them to any strict account in the performance of their duty; and while for that reason, and be cause the offenders were protected by the Statute of Limitations, the lawyers could not successfully

prosecute them, they said: Our decision to institute no criminal proceedings on this evidence does not mean that in our opinion the officials charged with carrying out the great work of improving the canals have done their duty. The discretionary powers vested in the Superintendent of Public Works and the engineers by the contracts and statutes pursuant to which the work was done were unduly great and have been abusod.'

"Then they declared that the conduct of these officials-Mr. ALDRIDGE among them-was such as undoubtedly justifies severe criticism, and may properly subject the public officials concerned to removal from office and render them the objects of just indignation.' And in the face of that the Rochester convention declares that to say a man is a proper object of just indignation, that he has failed in his duty, that he has abused his discretion and that the Statute of Limitations alone saves him from facing a criminal court is a complete vindication of its 'honored friend.' Do the politicians of Monroe think that the voters of Monroe are all fools?"

The Tribune has not confined its remarks to the question of Mr. ALDRIDGE'S participation in offenses that escaped the criminal law only through the Statute of Limitations. It has commented likewise of Wall street and Broadway be selling on the correlated question of the propriety of appointing him to public office; and curiously enough, its ideas on this aspect in the world? Except for them, how of the case were originally elicited by the proposal to make him secretary of the systems so essential to our growth? If State Railroad Commission, the office from which, to the Tribune's undisguised gratification, he has now been "promoted" reason to expect that the great coming by Governor Higgins. We quote from

" It might not seem as if a man who a few years ago was a serious candidate for Governor and subsequently held the most important and powerful appointive office in the State would find much comfort for his wounded feelings in the comparatively insignificant and unremunerative office of Secretary to the Railroad Commission. But if he wants it, the temptation of old time political friends and associates will be to give it to him. If it were private employment which they had to bestow such good nature would be not only pardonable but praiseworthy. But when they have in their keeping the reputation and prospects of a political party which must bear the blame for wrongdoing or the suspicion of wrongdoing on the part of those it puts in office the use of official power for the vindication of discredited friends is a distinct breach of trust.

" Mr. ALDRIDGE may consider himself greatly wronged and feel absolute confidence in the rectitude of his conduct in the improvement of the canals. The members of the State Rallroad Commission may believe in his honesty and ability to make an acceptable secretary to them. Nevertheless, the facts of the record are that impartial counsel who, under the direction of Governor ROOSEVELT, reviewed the testimony taken by Governor BLACE's commission to investigate the canal scandals re ported that it was impracticable to prosecute Mr. ALDRIDGE or anybody else concerned chiefly be cause of the Statute of Limitations. And they also reported that the conduct of the canal officials undoubtedly justifies severe criticism and may properly subject the public officials concerned to removal from office and render them the objects of just public indignation."

"This was the official finding. Mr. ALDRIDGE was retired from office and became the object of public indignation, just or unjust, for the conduct of the canal 'improvement' which sunk \$9,000,000 without half completing the work of enlargement estimated to cost that sum.

"Whatever excuses Mr. ALDRIDGE's personal friends may make, the simple facts of the record are what the people know and remember, and the Republican party cannot now turn about and put him back in office without arousing a widespread feeling that its honest and economical administration of State affairs under Governor OpenL's leadership is only a mask assumed to delude the people

the proposed appointment would put the State Administration on the defensive."

Such was the Tribune's estimate less and his unworthiness to hold any public office, no matter how insignificant. Such his appointment to a public office. Its attempt vesterday to vindicate the gentleman and its eulogy of Governor Higgins for appointing him to the Railroad Commission scarcely require other comment than is afforded by its own language on many previous occasions.

# Why the Arrangement of Peace in

the Far East Is Difficult. are by no means indistinguishable from those of the Russian people, and for the other fact, less often recognized, that Japan has been taught by bitter experience not to permit a neutral Power to participate in conferences held for the purpose of defining the conditions of accommodation between combatants.

The advisers of NICHOLAS II. would not listen to the peacemakers while they clung to the delusion that ROJESTVENsky's fleet would annihilate its Japanese opponent and dominate Far Eastern waters. They will doubtless show themselves no less deaf to pacificatory suggestions so long as the huge army under adopted a resolution declaring that the Gen. LINIEVITCH remains unbeaten. Assuming, however, for the sake of argument, that Marshal OYAMA is destined to be as victorious on land as was Admiral Togo at sea, we must admit that the Grand Ducal coterie, of which the Czar is but a puppet, may still deem it for their interest to continue the war. They and their parasites are well aware that their opportunities for fraud and embezzlement are incomparably greater to-day than they would be if the national expenditure were readjusted to the normal conditions of peace, especially as rigorous economy would have to be practised for

a time. It is not greed alone, however, but also terror, that makes the Czar's relatives reluctant to bring the war to an end. It might be better for the Grand Dukes that LINIEVITCH's soldiers should all die in their tracks than that any large body of survivors should return from Manchuria and infect their comrades who have stayed at home with the contempt and hatred that would be seething in their hearts for the Government which has neglected and despoiled them. Then, again, NAPOLEON'S inability to carry his army through a winter in Moscow at a time when no railways existed encourages foolish people in St. Petersburg to l assume that peace proposals may be re-

jected with impunity, and that European Russia would always be invulnerable to Japan's military and naval forces. That is an assumption that it may not be safe to make.

On the part of Japan, also, there is

serious impediment to the success of well meant effort at mediation. When a mediator is practically accepted, even though his interposition may have been offered in the guise of a tender of kind offices, it is not easy for either belligerent to prevent the exercise of a good deal of influence by the mutual friend. Thus, there is no doubt that M. JULES CAMBON. the French Ambassador at Washington in 1898, who acted as a medium of communication between the United States and Spain, had a good deal to do with the formulation of the protocol which provisionally brought the war to an end. It is also probable that the terms of the Treaty of Frankfort would have been much less favorable to Germany than they were had not BISMARCK thwarted the earnest endeavors made by THIERS to secure the mediation of a third Power. Still fresh in remembrance is the mutilation which the Treaty of San Stefano, concluded directly between Russia and Turkey, suffered subsequently at the hands of the Berlin Congress. No country, however, has had such

grievous cause as has Japan to dread the interference of third parties with the terms of peace agreed upon by the actual combatants. As we have formerly pointed out, by far the most important feature of the Shimonoseki treaty was the second article, by which China ceded to Japan in perpetuity and full sovereignty, not merely the Liaotung peninsula, but the whole southern coast of Manchuria, from the mouth of the River Yalu on the east to the Liao River at Yinkau on the west. Not only was the Tokio Government compelled by the joint intervention of Russia, Germany and France to retrocede every square inch of the territory described, but Russia presently proceeded to appropriate a part of it for herself, by means of the twenty-five year lease of Port Arthur and the adjoining section of the Liaotung peninsula. It is not surprising that the plundered Japanese have since felt disgust and detestation for the cynical diplomacy which passes for statecraft at St. Petersburg.

In view of what occurred ten years ago, it might seem the height of folly for the Mikado's counsellors to allow either France or Germany to have any thing whatever to do with framing the terms upon which they will consent to grant peace to their beaten enemy.

## Mr. Dalrymple's Doubts.

Chicago is shocked to learn that JAMES DALRYMPLE, superintendent of the Glasgow municipal tramways, is not all enthusiasm over public operation of street car systems in this country. He sees in politics a menace to successful and economical management, and he seems to doubt the possibility of divorcing the car lines from politics, at least in the lakeside city.

Since his arrival in Chicago Mr. DAL-RYMPLE has had opportunity to observe the manner in which the city's business is conducted. He has seen the streets which the community laid out and spent its funds to improve seized from the city administration and taken over for the private purposes of a small organiuntil it is thought that they will tolerate again | zation of enterprising citizens. He has seen the Mayor of the city anxious to "We have no ill will toward Mr. Aldeldes, but | bring about a compromise or settlement between these usurpers of the public domain and a group of citizens against whom they have a bitter animosity. than forty months ago of Mr. ALDRIDGE | These sights must have caused him to wonder what the result would be if the street railway employees took ofwas its view of the effect upon the party of | fense at another group of citizens, after municipal ownership went into effect, and banded themselves together to hold the car lines and the thoroughfares in which they lie.

Mr. DALRYMPLE was brought to this country to instruct Mayor DUNNE in the intricate details of municipal operation of public utilities. The task is not one that would be called easy. Moreover, it looks at present as though Mr. Dal-RYMPLE must learn a good deal about The attempt of President ROOSEVELT | Chicago conditions before he can even to facilitate negotiations between the begin his instructions. The problem belligerents would be more likely to of managing a car line as an annex to succeed but for the obvious fact that | the Cook County Democracy is one that the interests of the Romanoff dynasty even a canny Scotchman must consider seriously before he can present its so-

> The selection of MORGAN J. O'BRIEN to succeed the late CHARLES H. VAN BRUNT as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the First Department will be regarded generally as the most satisfactory appointment that Governor Higgins has made.

The potato bug, the premier destroyer of farm products in prairie days, holds the insignificant place of fifteenth on the Department of Agriculture list of destruction. Only \$8,000,000 of loss is charged up to the potato bug against \$15,000,000 to the army worm, ignored by paragraphers and neglected by crop reporters. The boll weevil is admitted to cost the country \$20,000,000

a year and the Hessian fly \$40,000,000. These are portentous figures of destruction, but they lack the customary hall mark of the official agricultural list-they are not exact. Forty million dollars of loss to crops from the Hessian fly every year is less convincing than this would be: "\$39,876,543.21 is the total loss reported by the Department of Agriculture from the ravages of the Hessian fly."

The San José scale is marked down, so to speak, in damage doing to \$10,000,000, and the codling moth overtops this figure with a total loss of \$20,000,000.

As was to be expected, the mild appearng grasshopper does not escape the notice of the agriculturists. A loss of \$50,000,000 a year is charged to this foe of farmers. The chinch bug outdoes even the grasshopper. Sixty million dollars a year is the loss caused by the chinch bug.

The figures of the Washington experimental farmers foot up nearly \$300,000,000 a year loss from bugs and insects, not including beetles, crickets, flies and New Jersey mosquitoes.

Notwithstanding this entomological devastation, as reported from Washington, the crop reports from all other parts of the country indicate great agricultural pros-

Saburban Joys. Stella-So you made the catch of the season? Bella-Yes, the 7:10 train.

CHINESE EXCLUSION.

Power of Banishment of American Citizens Possessed by Immigration Officers. Ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster in the

Independent. The highest court of our country has d cided that due process of law is granted by the hearing before the immigration official; that trial by jury may be in the same way superseded; that a citizen may suffer the infamous punishment of perpetual banishment from the land of his birth by the same procedure, and that the writ of habeas corpus, so dearly prized as "the remedy which the law gives for the enforcement of the civil right of personal liberty," is ineffective against the decision of an obscure immi-

gration officer. Under the authority of the laws passed by Congress for the exclusion of Chinese laborers a series of rules have been adopted by the Immigration Bureau. These rules provide that when a Chinese person arrives at a port or on the frontier of the United States the immigration officer shall prevent the Chinese person from having communication with any one but the officer; that the officer shall examine him in private touching his right to admission, without any opportunity to secure the assistance of an attorney or friend, and that only such witnesses shall be heard as the examining officer shall designate, and they examined in private. In this way the right of the Chinese applicant to admission is determined. If admission is denied, the applicant is advised of his right of appeal to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, when he can employ counsel, who is permitted, upon filing notice of appeal, to examine, but not to copy, the ex parte evidence taken by the

immigration officer. Notice of appeal must be filed within two days, and within three days a record of the case, including new affidavits (for there is no open or public hearing), must be forwarded to Washington. The burden of proof is placed on the Chinese person, and in every doubtful case the benefit of the doubt is given to the Government. No provision is made for summoning witnesses from a distance (for instance, from the State in which the applicant was born) or taking depositions. Well might Mr. Justice Brewer ask:

If this be not a star chamber proceeding of the most stringent sort, what more is necessary to make it one? I do not see how any one can read these rules and hold that they constitute due pro for the arrest and deportation of a citizen of the United States.

And this in a case where the applicant had been judicially determined to be an American citizen. Under such circumstances the Justice quoted and the two colleagues who unite with him in dissent (Justices Peckham and Day) are justified in the declaration: "Such a decision is

The Lady, the Gentleman and the Mosquito. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I went to church yesterday, and during the prayer could no help being deeply interested in a New Jersey mos-quito, rather than the prayer. I know it was wrong and showed weakness, but I did it.

Two pews shead sat a lady with her husband. The pew directly behind them was unoocupled. The lady had on a handsome dress with open lace work around the neck and shoulders. It was on work around the neck and anounders. It was on this openwork that the mosquito got in his fine work. He'd buzz behind her ear and then light on an opening in the lace work. The lady, feeling the sting, would wriggle a trifle and gently brush her hand over the spot. Mr. Mosquito would hop out of her way and begin operations again. Then an

other wriggle and another hop.

I debated whether I should sit there quietly and see the lady assaulted or should rise and hit the esquite a swat, and incidentally the lady, run ning the risk thereby of disturbing the congrega tion by my action and having the husband ley for me after service, demanding an explanation as to

All the time my debate was going on the hopping of the mosquito, the contortions and wrigging of the lady continued. Just when I got to a point of "couldn't stand it any longer" the mosquito-having gorged himself-settled my debate by heavily

lying away.

Please advise me what course I should have taken. Sit still—and thereby aid and abet the crime—and also lose the prayer, or swat the evil-doer and run the risk of disturbing the congregation, besides getting in trouble with the lady and NEW YORK, June 5.

Isaac Van Wart's Grave Not Neglected.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Your correspondent of June 1 is certainly misinformed as to the condition of Isaac Van Wart's grave at Elms ford. In company with five friends, I visited it on May 30, and found the following to be the facts: The patriot's grave is in the yard attached to the Reformed Church of that place, and is marked by an altar monument that recounts the achievements of the hero and the high esteem in which he was regarded by his contemporaries. The stone is in good preservation, and is enclosed by a neat from railing. Some loving hand had already been there and decorated the grave with our bea gotten among the crowd of later heroes.

The graveyard, though small, was neat an trimly kept. Some of the gravestones are of great age and broken, but these have been braced by artificial supports, so that the general effect good. Doubtiess many more would visit this beau tiful spot if Elmsford were more accessible an this shrine better known.

Please assure your correspondent that it will not be necessary to contribute anything for the proper care of Van Wart's grave. The church authorities are doing their duty, and have a proper pride in this respect, as the patriot was an elder of their society in his time. W. S. M. SILBER. NEW YORK. June 7.

## Successful Missionary Preaching. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A small boy ive years old, coming out of a church where h had listened for half an hour to a Western Bishop's missionary sermon, said: "Mother, what is gambling hell? Won't you buy me one?" S. BRYN MAWR. Pa., June 7.

After Six Months Probation From the Rochester Herald. If the "recall" was in operation in New York, Governor Higgins would probably lose his job.

Josephus Redux.

Sound the timbrel, beat the drum!

Home again doth Joe Choate come, Back to scenes of former splendor, Back from his right royal bender To the Court of old St. Jim-Let us join and welcome him. Let us dine him till he hollers, Let us wine him with our dollars On the land or on the sea. Now as up Broadway he marches Let us raise up Dewey arches, That our Joe may skip thereunder While we cheer and yell like thunder Just to show in manner fittin' We are glad he's back from Britain. Let us tell him how we've missed him Since Fame Diplomatique kissed him: How the Bench and how the Bar How the practise of the law Now is solemn as a daw: How our after dinner speaking Since he left us hath been recking With a humor dire and deadly-Sort of mixed, chaotic medley Of the jokes of B. Boru. Miller, J., and C. Depew. Till instead of gally laughing At our after dinner chaffing Those of us who have been able To remain above the table Have of diners got as weary As of an obltucery. Let the beauteous bunting fly Till it hides the bloc Do the job up spick and thorough. We don't often get a crack
At a hero coming back—
Specially, we'd have you note, Hero like our dear old Choate As, alas, twixt me and you Yankee heroes often do

THE MILK TRUST.

Farmers Apreal far Reile! to the Federal

Author.t'es. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUX-Sir: As you have in the past paid some attention to the relations between the dairy farmers and the o-called Milk Exchange of New York, I ask you to give publicity to the latest action of this body. At a meeting of the exchange held on May 20 it was voted to cut the price of milk to the farmer from 2% cents a quar to 2 cents. As the prices received by us farmers from the creamery men at the stations. to whom we sell our milk, is one-quarter less than the exchange price, we shall receive only 1% cents a quart while this schedule

The consumers of the city, who are paying 8 cents or more a quart for the milk that we supply, can appreciate in some degree our plight. It is impossible to make day's plight. wages dairy farming on these terms. Feed is high, labor is high, the price of cows is high. Even the creamery men say that this rut is the most unjustifiable that the ex-

high. Even the creamery men say that this cut is the most unjustifiable that the exchange has ever made.

We farmers are a rather helpless folk, but this cut has shown us that something must be done, and we have decided to appeal to the Interstate Commerce Commission to see if light cannot be let in on the operations of this trust. We shall set forth that one of the complaints against the so-called beef trust is that the packing companies have at least an understanding not to compete with one another in buying cattle, and that in this way there is a practical combination in restraint of trade; that, while it is asserted that the packing companies may have no tangible combination for this purpose, the so-called Milk Exchange of New York is a chartered corporation, whose only object is the arbitrary fixing of the price of milk; that as an exchange it really sells no milk, its meetings being held solely to fix prices, and that it is made up of men who directly benefit by this fixing of prices.

We farmers are driven to take some action All attempts to form a company which shall handle the milk of the metropolitan district on a basis of fairness to the farmer and profit to the company have failed. The exchange evidently thinks that it can now take matters in its own hands. Our appeal to Washington will at least decide whether we have any remedy under the Federal law.

McApee Valley, Sussex Co., N. J., June 5.

ONE EXPLANATION: TOO MUCH MILK. ONE EXPLANATION: TOO MUCH MILK.

The members of the Milk Exchange say that the market is deluged with milk, with the result that the retail price in the city has been dropping more and more daily. They say that the action of the exchange in quoting the price half a cent lower was forced by existing conditions. Butter, they say, has dropped in price more suddenly than ever before, and this fact alone has had a great effect on the milk market.

ever before, and this fact alone has had a great effect on the milk market.

"The lowering of the price of milk," said George Slaughter of the Consolidated Milk Exchange, "was due solely to market conditions. The market is flooded with the product and all this was brought about by the delay in the arrival of good weather. True, the drop of half a cent at one time is the biggest alump in six years, but the farmer forgets that all through May he was receiving a higher price for his milk than in previous years. Milk would ordinarily have dropped a quarter of a cent in man in previous years, mix would drui-narily have dropped a quarter of a cent in May, but it held firm this year, and now with good weather and pasturage the supply has become so great that it cannot all be consumed. Then the usual summer rush for milk has not by any means set in. for milk has not by any means set in. Folks haven't begun to clamor for ice cream and other summer concoctions, and probably they will not until about July 1. By that time milk will have gone up in price

again and the producer will have no cause for complaint.

"That the members of the exchange profit by the reduction is absolutely ridiculous. Ex-Senator McBride, who owns a large dairy farm at Deckerville, N. J., is the chairment of the price committee of the dairy farm at Deckerville. N. J., is the chairman of the price committee of the exchange, and had a leading part in making the recent quotation. It doesn't seem likely that he is going to benefit to any great extent by the reduction. The price of milk at retail in the city is not holding high. On the contrary, milk is selling at a very low price in most instances. Of course, some fancy dealers are getting fancy prices, but they always get them because their customers are satisfied to pay the price asked. The Consolidated Milk Exchange merely fixes the price of milk at a figure in keeping with the condition of the market. Supply and demand rules them. Furthermore, should the farmer find himself able to get a higher price for his milk than that quoted

a higher price for his milk than that quoted by the exchange, there is nothing to stop him from taking advantage of it. Per-haps before the next meeting of this exchange the conditions will have changed and the farmer and dairyman may be get-ting prices far above that quoted by the exchange."

change say that the present supply of milk is greatly in excess of the demand and that many of them are losing money in milk that spoils before they can sell it.

Mysterious Compliment of a Podunker. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I have read and enjoyed THE SUN for nigh forty years. Gen-Sometimes I don't understand, but it is stimu-

up at the Home Made Hotel on Fifteenth avenue I met a young fellow who worked nights and had money, and we went to that booze place you named on John street. He had a "Hannah Elias. I take my whisky straight; but I don't like ambergris, and took juniper gin. Then the free lunch: sausages or hash. I said

hash, and paid my check. Then I heard: "Police! Stop him! Stop him!"
My friend says, "He means you." "What do you want?" "Five cents for the hash!" So I paid him. But I was so much disturbed inwardly that took the next train back and Maria has been dosing me ever since

I am used to juniper gin: I told her it was the I fully intend paying my respects to you and PODUNE, June 5.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I would like to an to the redemption fund alluded to in the letter you printed to-day on Philadelphia affairs Will five others from five other cities join me?
I am no Philadelphian—only an American. The fight is no longer local. The city's condition is a national disgrace. If Philadelphia will not clear itself, it must be purged with outside help.

JAMES COLTON TANKY. WASHINGTON, D. C., June 6.

Disrespect for Lofty Characters TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Might I ven are to ask what those whitewashed objects in from of the sixth story of the new Hall of Records are supposed to be? When fluished—probably about the date of the final repairs to the City Hall, Dec. 31 1999, or thereabouts—I presume the building will look like a sort of kiyoodle cross between the Milan Cathedral and Bellevue Hospital.

NEW YORK, June 7. CHRIS. WRENCH. New Speed Standard. Knicker-Did the town spring up like a mush Bocker-Quicker-it rose like an Equitable salary

Pray, what is this great news I see, What "holler" rends the air? The newsboy has beneath his arm. In letters one foot square, TOGO KILLED!" and, as he runs It is as Heaven willed.

Forthwith I give him half a dime And glance the paper o'er The true; the guns of TOGO KILLED Five thousand men or more. "THE CZAR IS DEAD!" the black line says

It covers half a sheet.
"The Czar is dead!" the newsboys' cry Resounds throughout the street This time I give him coppers two
And find the truth at last: THE CZAR | John Smith

As often, in the past.

"Oh, Whuxtra! Whuxtra! Ten o'clock!"
(It lacks two hours of noon) I marvel that the headline man Could do his work so so But great is my delight To find I've bought an "extra" Dated ten o'clock to-night.

And, as I glance its pages through No Togo and no Cear I find, but, blasoned in red paint, "NAN PATTERSON A STAR!"

SHOCKED BY THE "SATURNALIA." Museum Trustees Defend the Rejection

of Blondi's Bronze Group. Robert W. De Forest, one of the directors of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, testified yesterday at the continuance, before Supreme Court Justice Leventritt, of the suit brought by Ernesto Biondi, the sculptor, against the Museum for damages sustained through the action of the board of trustees in refusing to exhibit Biondi's "Saturnalia."

Mr. De Forest gave it as his opninon that the action of the trustees was entirely justifiable and that he did not consider the group a proper subject for exhibition in a museum largely frequented by women and children.

Mr. De Forest said that he thought the "Saturnalia." which is an allegorical representation of the awakening of Christianity from the drunken orgies of paganism, an artistic work but too realistic. He objected, he said, to the figures of drunken pagan priests and to the figures of drunken pagan priests and to the pose of the one woman. Her bosom is uncovered. Under cross-examination by Gilbert Ray Hawes, counsel for Biondi, Mr. De Forest admitted that there was a number of entirely nude figures on exhibition in the museum and some others which while

the museum and some others which while not altogether nude depict revolting and horrible scenes. He maintained, however, that "Saturnalia" exceeds in grossness even the pictures of "The hake's Progress," by Hogarth.

Edward D. Adams, another trustee, gave similar testimony. He said that "Saturnalia" had shocked him, but declared that Michael Angelo's "Last Judgment" or the group "Two Natures of Man" had not. He explained that he considered Biondi's group lewdly suggestive in its depiction of pagan debauchery.

Constantine Biondi, the sculptor's brother, was called and identified a number of letters which he wrote to some of the trustees and others which he received from

letters which he wrote to some of the trus-tees and others which he received from Gen. Ceenola. He testified that the museum had offered to compromise the matter by paying Biondi \$500, and on this being re-fused he was met with the proposition that the only way by which the sculptor could regain his group was by paying the \$18,200 bond that the museum gave to the Govern-ment to secure the payment of customs duties.

Elihu Root, counsel for the museum, cross-examined Biondi briefly. The trial will go on to-day.

PICKED FOR \$12,000 JOBS. Mayor Wonders if These Distinguished Men Will Take Them.

It was announced yesterday at the Chamber of Commerce that that body had sent to Mayor McClellan the names of Gen. Horace Porter, J. Edward Simmons and Gustav H. Schwab, from among whom the Mayor is to select a member of the city's water supply commission.

The Mayor, as a matter of fact, received the names several days ago, but he did not make the circumstance known, because he found that none of the three had been consulted, and because he thinks the chamber has misconstrued the scope of the commission's work. The members of the commission will receive \$12,000 a year. and must devote their whole time to their duties. Gan. Parter will not return to this country until the end of the year, and the Mayor does not think it likely that either Mr. Simmons or Mr. Schwab would give up his present occupation to take a \$12,000 a year job. The Mayor has asked President Morris K. Jesup of the Chamber of Commerce to call and see him.

The New York Board of Fire Underwriters has also named three candidates, Henry Evans, president of the Continental Fire Insurance Company: Marshall S. Driggs, president of the Williamsburg City Fire Insurance Company, and Charles A. Shaw, president of the Hanover Insurance Company. president of the Hanover Insurance Com-Possibly the same difficulty will

AHEARN AND HOPPER ARE OUT. Because Borough President Did Not Pub

lish Superintendent's Defense. Isaac A. Hopper, Superintendent of Buildings, resents Borough President Ahearn's failure to make public the reply of Mr. Hopper to charges made against him by Herbert S. Renton, a Brooklyn manufacturer of sanitary flanges. Mr. Renton asserted that Supt. Hopper tried to force builders to use a special patented

Mr. Hopper's answer was sent to Mr. Ahearn several weeks ago, and as the Borough President did not give it out publication. Mr. Hopper himself tributed it yesterday. It is in effect denial of all the charges that he fave any particular make of flange and the

discriminated against the Renton Sanso.

When Mr. Ahearn learned of the step
Mr. Hopper had taken he said: "Ecpper" insinuation that I suppressed his letter is all rot. I didn't give it out because didn't think it was worth publishing. The didn't think it was worth publishing. The whole flange trouble was settled by ne long ago. After Mr. Renton made his charges I looked into the matter and afterward ordered that good makes of flances should be accepted by the Building Department. That ended the matter, and when Mr. Hopper's letter reached me afterward I laid it aside because I saw that it was really only an exhibition of spite against Renton, and I was not going to foster any spite fight."

ROOF GARDEN, READING ROOM. Novelty in the Carnegie Branch Library to Be Opened on Saturday.

New York will have an addition to its roof gardens when the new Rivington street branch of the New York Public Library is thrown open to the public on Saturday. The roof garden, which has been built on top of the library building, will be an open air reading room. The new building is to take the place of the branch in the University Settlement House at Rivington and Eldridge streets.

The building is a four story and basement .tructure of brick, with stone trimmings. McKim, Mead & White were the architects. The first floor is used for the circulating room for adults. The children's room is on the second floor. The general reading room takes up the third floor. From this room there is a broad stairway leading to the roof, which is about forty feet square. It is protected by a light iron railing, and in the day time will be covered with an awning. This will be taken down at night and the roof lighted by electricity. Chairs and tables will be provided for readers and there will be a special tricity. Chairs and tables will be provided for readers, and there will be a special custodian for the roof.

At the formal opening on Saturday the Mayor will be represented by some officer of the city government. Stephen H. Olin will represent the library trustees. Two more Carnegie libraries will be opened in July, and still another in August.

20 PERCENT. OFF FRANCHISE TAX Is Manhattan Railway's Proposition to the City.

Representatives of the Manhattan Elevated Railroad Company laid yesterday before Comptroller Grout a proposition which if accepted would mean a large reduction on the special franchise taxes due from the company. The total amount of the company's tax is \$4,221,951. Under the decision of ex-Judge Earl, sitting as the decision of ex-Judge Earl, sitting as referee, a ruling was made that as real estate was taxed only on 70 per cent. of its value prior to 1904, the special franchise tax for 1900, 1901 and 1902 should be assessed in like proportion. In 1903 and 1904 real property was taxed on nearly its market value and the Manhattan company suggested yesterday that in order to equalize matters the city should allow a general reduction of 20 per cent. on the accrued taxes for the five years. The Comptroller will submit the proposition to the Corporation Counsel.